



White House Deputy Chief Technology Officer for Internet Policy Daniel J. Weitzner, Ambassador Kornbluh, and Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information and National Telecommunications Administrator Lawrence E. Strickling led the U.S.-initiated high-level Internet meeting.

OECD ADOPTS INTERNET POLICY MAKING PRINCIPLES

OECD Council Adopts Recommendation on Internet Policy Making Principles

The OECD finished up 2011 with an important step in international efforts to ensure the Internet remains an open platform that is secure and reliable, continuing to spur innovation, prosperity and job creation. The OECD adopted a [Recommendation of the Council on Principles for Internet Policy Making](#).

The Recommendation was born at a U.S.-initiated high-level meeting earlier this year and is a major step in our efforts to ensure the Internet remains an open platform.

The Recommendation was developed through the OECD's multilateral consensus-based process and is a successful follow-on to the U.S.-initiated June 28-29 High Level Meeting on the Internet Economy in which 34 OECD member countries, Egypt, the OECD Business and Industry Advisory Committee and its Internet Technical Advisory Committee agreed through a Communiqué to the set of principles to guide Internet-related policy making.

This is an important deliverable on the U.S. open Internet agenda. In May, President Obama issued the [U.S. International Strategy for Cyberspace](#), an agenda for safeguarding the single Internet. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton has developed a groundbreaking [Internet freedom agenda](#), a principled approach to preserving the freedom to connect — the freedoms of expression, association and assembly online — and to ensuring that the Internet can be a platform for commerce, debate, learning and innovation in the 21st century.

The stakes are high. According to McKinsey, over the past five years, the Internet has been responsible for 21 percent of the growth in mature economies and has created 2.6 jobs for every job it has displaced. Its power to generate innovation is rivaled only by its potential to help people realize their rights and democratic aspirations, as the Arab Spring demonstrated.

This platform, that produced more growth in its first 15 years than the Industrial Revolution did in its first 50, must not be balkanized. The United States will work with others to continue building consensus for these global norms.

Advancing Women's Economic Empowerment at Busan, APEC and Pre-G20 Events

At a November 30 Special Session on Gender at the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness at Busan, Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton announced a new initiative called the Evidence and Data for Gender Equality, or EDGE, which responds to the growing demand of countries for financial and technical support to improve gender statistics: "Earlier this year at the OECD's 50th Anniversary Ministerial, I called on the OECD, the World Bank, the UN and the international community to standardize the data we have on women's inclusion to make it more useful," the Secretary said. "These institutions have now come to the table here in Busan with a list of core indicators to track women's status in education, employment, and entrepreneurship."

On October 31, the United States and the OECD hosted the [Pre-G20 Event: Growing Economies through Women's Entrepreneurship](#), which highlighted the critical role women can play in the global economy if their potential is unleashed. At the event, the United States Department of Treasury and the International Finance Corporation previewed the G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPFI) report "Strengthening Access to Finance for Women SMEs in Developing Countries," which was released at the G20 Summit in Cannes on November 4, 2011. The United States Agency for International Development also announced new pilot programs that will begin to implement the GPFI report recommendations by expanding women's leadership in the Small and Medium Enterprise sector.

At the APEC Women and the Economy Summit in San Francisco on September 16, Ambassador Kornbluh released the OECD Gender Report, a key document informing the San Francisco Declaration. Under the Chairmanship of Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton, APEC economies vowed in the San Francisco Declaration to take concrete actions to realize the full potential of women, integrate them more fully into APEC economies, harness their talents and remove barriers that restrict women's full economic participation. In 2011 the OECD launched the U.S.-led Gender Initiative to help governments promote gender equality in Education, Employment and Entrepreneurship (the "three Es"). The [OECD Gender Report](#) is an adaptation of a report presented to the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting in May 2011. It focuses on OECD countries in the Pacific Rim and, where possible, brings in cross-nationally comparable data for other APEC countries.

A Year of Anti-Corruption Achievements

2011 has been a banner year for the global fight against corruption, which is a U.S. priority at the OECD.

As Secretary Clinton said during her remarks at the 50th Anniversary of the OECD in May, "We all know that bribery interferes with trade, investment, and development. It distorts competitive conditions. It undermines good governance. It encourages even greater corruption. And of course, it is morally wrong and far too common."

There is no doubt that corruption and bribery continue to be rampant. The World Bank estimates that more than 1 trillion dollars in bribes are paid each year out of a world economy of 30 trillion dollars. That's a staggering three percent of the world's economy. And the impact is particularly severe on foreign investment. In fact, the World Bank estimates that corruption serves, essentially, as a 20-percent tax.

2011 has been a year of progress throughout the OECD and the global community:

- In May 2011, the Russian Federation became a full participant in the Working Group on Bribery.
- On November 29, 2011 the OECD also invited Colombia to join the Working Group on Bribery.
- In July 2011, the UK Bribery Act came into force.

- The United States was instrumental in working with the OECD Secretariat to publish [annual data](#) on anti-bribery enforcement.
- China, Thailand, Peru, Indonesia and India have participated in Working Group on Bribery meetings.

Looking to 2012, we hope to see both Russia and Colombia accede to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention. We plan to partner with countries in the Middle East and North Africa region to share our experiences on fighting bribery. And we look forward to encouraging more countries to join in the global fight against corruption.

Selected Clips

[O.E.C.D. Calls on Members to Defend Internet Freedoms](#), *The New York Times*, 13 December 2011. "It's really a milestone in terms of making a statement about openness," said Karen Kornbluh, the U.S. Ambassador to the O.E.C.D. "You can't really get the innovation you need in terms of creating jobs unless we work together to protect the openness of the Internet."

[OECD call for Internet to be kept open](#), IT Wire, December 14, 2011. The OECD has called on its 34 member countries to "promote and protect the global free flow of information" online.

[Chicago via Paris \(PDF\)](#), *Chicago Tribune*, 8 December 2011

A delegation of Chicago business leaders is in Paris this week presenting a draft of an in-depth study on improving the tri-state economy to the prestigious Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

[Les femmes entrepreneurs : l'un des enjeux forts des printemps arabes \(PDF\)](#), *Les Influences*, 23 November 2011 Ambassador Kornbluh responds to questions on MENA. (Article in French) [Click here for English translation \(PDF\)](#).

[YouTube: Unleashing Women's Entrepreneurship](#), 31 October 2011 [5 claves personales para alcanzar el éxito](#), *elmercurio.com*, 20 September 2011, [English translation](#).

[Foreign policy of the Internet](#), *The Washington Post*, 15 July 2011 [Karen Kornbluh, le "cerveau" de Barack Obama](#), *Marie-Claire*, 7 July 2011 [English translation](#).

[OECD Releases Open Internet Framework](#), *BroadbandBreakfast*, 6 July 2011

[International group offers guidance on Internet policymaking, warns against centralized Internet regulation](#), *Fierce Government*, 5 July 2011

[Global Tech Leaders Promote Open Internet](#), *Information Week*, 5 July 2011

[Women Break Down Barriers in Mideast Finance](#), *NY Times*, 27 June 2011

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Women & the Economy Summit

Ambassador Kornbluh, right, moderates the closing plenary at the APEC Women and the Economy Summit in San Francisco, which was chaired by Secretary Clinton.